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Approved For Release 2001/03/04 : CIA-RDP81B00961R000100120014-8

OSA-0297-62
23 July 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director, OSA

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SUBJECT : [REDACTED]

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1. On the basis of information provided by [REDACTED] from Air Force sources, and at your request an investigation was conducted to determine whether or not any Agency representatives had discussed Project IDEALIST or its predecessor at the United States Air Force Academy.

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2. It was determined that [REDACTED] Office of Training, DD/S, had in fact given a briefing to the cadets at the USAF Academy on 7 February 1962 at which time he gratuitously offered information on the Agency's role in reconnaissance of denied areas through the use of U-2 aircraft.

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3. [REDACTED] interviewed by [REDACTED] of this Branch, advised on 13 July 1962 that he gave a Top Secret briefing to the cadets at which time he discussed the nature, functions, and responsibilities of CIA. [REDACTED] advised that in lectures of this type, he has included as part of his talk, information on the use of the U-2, since it is a subject which cannot be avoided when CIA is discussed. [REDACTED] stated that his sources of information were the "New York Times," the "Washington Post," and several lectures given by General Cabell to the National War College in 1961 at which he, [REDACTED] had been present.

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4. He indicated that he had touched only lightly on the flight characteristics and capabilities of the U-2, but had spent some time in describing the tremendous value that resulted to the nation, of the rather large number of flights that had been conducted successfully. He stated that he advised his audience, that on balance, the use of the U-2 in reconnaissance was a risk that had to be assumed, and one that provided much useful information to the intelligence community, despite any unfortunate political ramifications. Because his audience consisted of future Air Force officers, he pointed out that the Air Force had a major role, both in planning and in the operational use of the aircraft. He indicated further that when the question of current operational use of the aircraft is brought up, he normally comments "the U-2 still exists and can be used if the President directs. [REDACTED] could not recall whether the question of current operational use had been brought up at the USAF Academy.

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5. When asked for his file of source material, or an outline of his speech, [REDACTED] advised that he has no such file, and that he always speaks extemporaneously without outline or notes.

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6. [REDACTED] anticipates that at any lecture given to government or military groups where CIA is discussed, he will receive questions concerning the use of the U-2. He indicated that on other occasions, in addressing other groups, for example officials of the State Department, he has discussed U-2 aircraft, but makes it a particular point never to discuss current operational information regarding any Agency project or activity.

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7. A letter has been prepared for Deputy Director/Support, Attention: Director, Office of Training, requesting that [REDACTED] and any other briefing officers of the Office of Training refrain from discussing Project IDEALIST or its predecessor during their lectures.

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[REDACTED]

Chief, Security Branch
OSA

Distribution:

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Orig & 1 - AD/OSA

1 - OS (Mr. [REDACTED])

1 - SB/OSA

1 - RI/OSA

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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